

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 OPR-02 A-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC 4026

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0572

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJ: FINAL SCHEDULE FOR SIMON VISIT

1. IDEA OF ONE JOINT MEETING OF MINISTERS HAS FALLEN BY WAYSIDE.
UAE SIDE NOW PREFERS TO HAVE ONE MEETING DEVOTED TO FINANCIAL
AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS, AND ANOTHER WITH OTAIBA AND HIS
PEOPLE ON ENERGY. SCHEDULE THEREFORE NOW STANDS AS FOLLOWS:

0025 -- ARRIVAL AT ABU DHABI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MILITARY SIDE).

OFFICIAL WELCOME WILL BE OFFERED BY SHAIKH HAMDAN BIN
RASHED, MINISTER OF FINANCE, UAEG. SENIOR MEMBER
PARTY WILL GATHER IN VIP LOUNGE AT AIRPORT FOR BRIEF
REFRESHMENTS.

0050 -- DEPART VIA MOTORCADE FOR HILTON HOTEL. SHAIKH HAMDAN
AND AMBASSADOR STERNER WILL ACCOMPANY SECRETARY IN
LIMOUSINE NUMBER 1.

0110 -- ARRIVE AT HILTON HOTE. SHAIKH HAMDAN ESCORTS
SECRETARY SIMON TO HIS SUITE AND TAKES HIS LEAVE.
REST FOR DURATION OF NIGHT.

0850 -- AMBASSADOR WILL ARRIVE AT HOTEL TO ESCORT SECRETARY
SIMON AND PARTY; DEPART HILTON HOTEL FOR START OF
OFFICIAL CALLS.

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0900 -- ARRIVE AT KUBAIRAH PALACE (LAST OF FOUR BUILDINGS), FOR MEETING FOCUSED ON FINANCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS. FOLLOWING TO BE PRESENT ON UAEG SIDE:
SHAikh HAMDAN BIN RASHED - MINISTER OF FINANCE (TO CHAIR THE MEETING);
H.E. MUHAMMAD HABROUSH - MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE;
DR. ADNAN PACHACHI (IRAQI) - FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR TO SHAikh ZAYED;
HASSAN ABBAS ZAKI (EGYPTIAN) - ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO SHAikh ZAYED AND DIRECTOR, ABU DHABI FUND FOR ARAB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;
ABDULLAH MAZRU'I - UNDER SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS;
GHANEM MAZRU'I - DIRECTOR, POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (ANNOUNCED AS SECRETARY OF NEW INVESTMENT BOARD);
ABDULLAH DARWISH - SHAikh ZAYED'S PERSONAL INVESTMENT COUNSELOR (FORMERLY UAE AMBASSADOR IN ISLAMABAD).

1027 -- DEPART KUBAIRAH PALACE FOR MEETING WITH MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, MANA AL-OTAIBA (DRIVING TIME 3 MINUTES)

1030 -- ARRIVE AT FEDERAL MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM BUILDING. MEET WITH MINISTER OTAIBA.

1120 -- DEPART PETROLEUM MINISTRY FOR AUDIENCE WITH SHAikh ZAYED AT BATEEN PALACE (DRIVING TIME 8 MINUTES).

1130 -- ARRIVE AT BATEEN PALACE. AUDIENCE WITH SHAikh ZAYED. AMONG THOSE WHO WILL POSSIBLY BE PRESENT ON UAE SIDE ARE:
SHAikh KHALIFA BIN ZAYED -- CROWN PRINCE, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF UAE, AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ABU DHABI DEFENSE FORCE (ADDF);
SHAikh SULTAN BIN ZAYED -- SECOND SON OF SHAikh ZAYED, DEPUTY COMMANDER ADDF;
SHAikh SOROOR BIN MUHAMMAD;
SAIF GHUBBASH, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
DURATION OF AUDIENCE IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT.
ON COMPLETION RETURN TO THE HOTEL.

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1330 -- LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SHAikh HAMDAN IN HONOR OF SECRETARY AND MRS. SIMON AT THE HILTON HOTEL, LIWA GRAND BALLROOM.

AFTERNOON FREE.

1800 -- PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT HILTON HOTEL IN MEZZANINE

MEETING ROOM.

1840 -- PRESS CONFERENCE CONCLUDES.

1845 -- SECRETARY AND REMAINING MEMBERS OF PARTY DEPART HILTON HOTEL FOR AIRPORT (DRIVING TIME 20 MINUTES).

1905 -- ARRIVE AT AIRPORT.

1915 -- DEPART ABU DHABI FOR LUXOR, EGYPT.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI IS PRESENTLY IN SAUDI ARABIA. HE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY SHAIKH ZAYED ALSO TO MAKE TRIP TO SYRIA. THIS MAY INTERFERE WITH HIS BEING HERE FOR SIMON VISIT, WHICH HE PERSONALLY WANTED TO DO. IF HE GETS BACK IN TIME, HE WILL ATTEND MEETINGS.

3. HABROUSH WANTS HIS EXPERTS (ZAKI AND PACHACHI) PRESENT DURING DISCUSSION ON INVESTMENT AND ASSISTANCE TO LDCS. SINCE THEY ARE GENERALLY ONES WHO CARRY THROUGH ON PROJECTS, BELIEVE THERE IS NET ADVANTAGE IN HAVING THEM PRESENT. IN FACT, HABROUSH WANTED JOHN BUTTER, HIS DIRECTOR OF FINANCE) ALSO PRESENT, BUT I DREW LINE AT THIS. (BUTTER IS NOT PARTICULARLY FRIENDLY TO US INTERESTS HERE AND I BELIEVE IT IS MISTAKE TO INCLUDE HIM.) GHUBBASH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD TALK HABROUSH OUT OF INCLUDING HIM WITHOUT MENTIONING ANY REASONS.

4. OTAIBA WANTS TO HAVE SECRETARY AND MRS. SIMON AND OTHER MEMBERS OF PARTY TO HIS HOUSE FOR TEA IN LATE AFTERNOON. IN KEEPING WITH PREFERENCE INDICATED SIMTO 45 TO KEEP AFTERNOON FREE, I TOLD OTAIBA SECRETARY WITH ALL THANKS MIGHT WISH TO FOREGO THIS. OTAIBA WILL UNDERSTAND IF SECRETARY WISHES DECLINE TEA. HIS HOUSE, HOWEVER, IS DIRECTLY ON ROUTE FROM HILTON TO AIRPORT, SO THAT

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IF SECRETARY WISHES ACCEPT HIS INVITATION, IT COULD BE DONE IN 20-30 MINUTES. MRS. OTAIBA WOULD RECEIVE LADIES SIMULTANEOUSLY IN HER WING OF HOUSE. OTAIBA, INCIDENTALLY, INTENDS TO PRESENT SECRETARY WITH NATIVE OUTFIT, SO SECRETARY MAY WISH TO HAVE ON HAND SOME RELATIVELY SIMPLE PRESENT HE COULD GIVE OTAIBA IN RETURN.

5. RE OTHER POINTS RAISED SIMTO 45,

(A) WE WILL REQUEST WELCOME CEREMONY BE SWITCHED TO AIRPORT. ANTICIPATE NO DIFFICULTY IN MAKING THIS CHANGE. SECRETARY SHOULD BE ADVISED, HOWEVER, THAT LOCAL PROTOCOL DICTATES THAT WELCOMING MINISTER ACCOMPANY HIM TO HOTEL AT WHICH POINT THERE CAN BE SIMPLE GOOD NIGHT.

(B) RE AFTERNOON SCHEDULE FOR SECRETARY AND MRS. SIMON, BEACH

AT HOTEL IS FINE, BUT PARTY SHOULD BE FOREWARNED THAT SEA IS STILL
ON COOL SIDE, AND WEATHER AT THIS TIME OF YEAR CAN BE CLOUDY AND
COLD. WE HAVE, IN ANY EVENT, CANCELLED RESERVATION FOR TENNIS
COURT.

(C) NEW TIMING FOR PRESS CONFERENCE (1800) POSES NO
PROBLEMS.
STERNER

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